



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **EP-5**

August 23, 2010

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Gail Farber *Gail Farber*
Director of Public Works

STATUS REPORT ON REMOVAL OF ELSMERE CANYON LANDFILL FROM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COUNTYWIDE SITING ELEMENT SEPTEMBER 30, 2003, BOARD MOTION, SYNOPSIS 5

On September 30, 2003, your Board instructed Public Works to take necessary steps to remove Elsmere Canyon from the Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element's (Siting Element) list of future landfill sites and to report back every 60 days. This report covers the period from June 1, 2010, through July 31, 2010.

As part of the process in revising the Siting Element, we continued coordination with the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force). The Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee of the Task Force completed their review of the preliminary draft of the Siting Element during the Spring of 2010. Upon completion of technical reviews by Public Works, the revised Siting Element will be considered by the Task Force after which the revised Siting Element and its environmental impact documents will undergo additional reviews in compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements, including approvals by cities, your Board, and the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle). The entire process is expected to be completed in 2013.

Each Supervisor
August 23, 2010
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As discussed with your staff, as well as with the City of Santa Clarita and State Senator George Runner's office, the reporting frequency is being changed from every 60 days to semi annually considering the duration of this revision process. Accordingly, our next status report will be submitted to your Board in February 2011.

If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Pat Proano of Environmental Programs Division at (626) 458-3500, Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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cc: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Office



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Public Works

At its meeting held September 30, 2003, the Board took the following action:

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The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisor Antonovich:

"On May 27, 2003, the Board instructed the Director of Public Works to investigate the process for removing the Elsmere Canyon site from the Countywide Siting Element's list of future landfill sites. Elsmere Canyon is an environmentally sensitive area of magnificent natural beauty, a natural and cultural treasure worthy of protection for the enjoyment and use of future generations. Browning-Ferris Industries, Inc., the owner of the site, has indicated publicly its intent to donate a portion of the site to the County for use as open space.

"On June 24, 2003, the Director of Public Works reported back to the Board regarding its findings. Based on these findings, the most cost-efficient means of removing Elsmere Canyon from the Siting Element is during the five-year review of the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan.

"As required by State law, the Department of Public Works is about to commence the five-year review of the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan to determine if it needs to be updated to reflect current disposal and recycling conditions. Should the Board decide to remove Elsmere Canyon at a later date after the five-year review and revision process is completed, the removal could take two more years at an additional cost of up to \$500,000.

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“Moreover, I have recently been informed that Blind Canyon will need to be removed from the Siting Element at the time of the five-year review and revision of the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan unless the site is made consistent with the County General Plan. Blind Canyon is located in the Santa Susana Mountains in the western part of the County in a significant ecological area. Furthermore, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy already has acquired most of the site for use as parkland. This site is also worthy of preservation and should be removed from the Siting Element.”

Therefore, at the suggestion of Supervisor Antonovich and on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Molina, unanimously carried (Supervisors Knabe and Antonovich being absent), the Director of Public Works was instructed to:

1. Take all necessary steps to remove Elsmere Canyon and Blind Canyon from the Countywide Siting Element's list of future landfill sites during the required five-year review of the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan; and
2. Report back to the Board on the progress every 60 days.

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Copies distributed:
Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel